

an aspiration fluid conduit means for removing fluid from the surgical site,

a controllable pump means in fluid communication with said aspiration fluid conduit means for providing suction in said aspiration fluid conduit means, and

a pressure sensitive transducer means communicating with said aspiration fluid conduit means for generating, when said controllable pump means is pumping, a pump control signal for said controllable pump means proportional to the vacuum in said aspiration fluid conduit means induced by said pump means[.], and said transducer means sensing a vacuum rise in said aspiration fluid conduit means.

34. (thrice amended -- corresponds to old Claim 37) A fluid control apparatus for use with a surgical irrigation and aspiration instrument adapted for irrigation and aspiration of a surgical site located in a small elastic chamber, said fluid control apparatus comprising:

an irrigation fluid conduit means for conducting irrigation liquid from a source of irrigation liquid to the surgical site,

an aspiration fluid conduit means for removing fluid from the surgical site,

a suction means in fluid communication with said aspiration fluid conduit means for providing suction in said aspiration fluid conduit means, [and]

a liquid pressure equalizing means for admitting irrigation liquid from the source of irrigation liquid to said aspiration fluid conduit means when a blockage occurs therein to vent the vacuum therein[.], and

said liquid pressure equalizing means including a pressure equalizing conduit providing communication for the

irrigation liquid from the source of irrigation liquid to said aspiration fluid conduit means.

38. (twice amended) The apparatus of Claim [37] 34 further comprising a valve means in ~~said~~ pressure equalizing conduit for controlling the flow of irrigation liquid to said aspiration fluid conduit means.

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39. (thrice amended -- to be in independent format)  
[The apparatus of Claim 34 further comprising] A fluid control apparatus for use with a surgical irrigation and aspiration instrument adapted for irrigation and aspiration of a surgical site located in a small elastic chamber, said fluid control apparatus comprising:

an irrigation fluid conduit means for conducting irrigation liquid from a source of irrigation liquid to the surgical site,

an aspiration fluid conduit means for removing fluid from the surgical site,

a suction means in fluid communication with said aspiration fluid conduit means for providing suction in said aspiration fluid conduit means,

a liquid pressure equalizing means for admitting irrigation liquid from the source of irrigation liquid to said aspiration fluid conduit means when a blockage occurs therein to vent the vacuum therein, and

a preventing means for preventing at least some of the irrigation liquid from flowing in said irrigation fluid conduit means generally away from the surgical site when said liquid pressure equalizing means is admitting the irrigation liquid into said aspiration fluid conduit means.